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A metal article, such as a sputtering target, comprising at least about 99.95 wt.% tantalum and a substantially uniform (100) cubic texture.

- 2. A high purity tantalum sputtering target comprising at least about 99.95 wt. tantalum and a substantially uniform (100) cubic texture at the target surface.
- 3. A high purity tantalum sputtering target according to claim 2 produced from a frictionless forged billet.
- 4. A high purity tantalum sputtering target according to claim 2 having substantially uniform (100) cubic texture at the center location, mid-radial location and edge locations of the target surface.

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